

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JAKART 09116 101110Z
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 ACDA-10 SP-02 PA-01 IO-06 HA-02 /055 W
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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9984
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
DIA WASHDC

S E C R E T JAKARTA 9116

LIMDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, ID
SUBJECT: ADMIRAL SUDOMO'S COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN EAST TIMOR

1. DEPUTY COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES, ADMIRAL SUDOMO, TOLD ME ON JULY 10 THAT INDONESIA NOW HAS 29,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL IN EAST TIMOR, AND IS OPTIMISTIC THAT IT CAN END THE DISSIDENCE IN THE AREA BY SEPTEMBER. HE PUT THE NUMBER OF HARD CORE FRETELIN AT ABOUT 2,000, BUT SAID THEIR OSITION IS DETERIORATING. THEY ARE SHORT ON WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION AND ARE BEING FORCED GRADUALLY INTO THE EASTERN END OF EAST TIMOR BY THE INDONESIAN MILITARY. SUDOMO REITERATED THAT THE GOI IS DETERMINED TO RESOLVE THE MILITARY PHASE OF THE PROBLEM BEFORE THE UNGA THIS FALL.

2. SUDOMO SAID A MAJOR EFFORT IS ALSO BEING MADE TO IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS IN EAST TIMOR AND TO DEVELOP A VIABLE CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. THE MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE AND INTERIOR ARE COOPERATING IN THE LATTER EFFORT. THEY

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ARE HANDICAPPED BY THE GREAT SHORTAGE OF TRAINED PEOPLE IN EAST TIMOR, BUT WILL NONETHELESS GO AHEAD WITH FORMATION OF A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. SUDOMO REFERRED TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S VISIT TO EAST TIMOR DURING THE MIDDLE OF THIS MONTH, AND SAID THIS WILL OPEN THE AREA TO OUTSIDE VISITORS. ASKED IF THIS WOULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE CATHOLIC RELIEF

SERVICE OR THE ICRC, SUDOMO REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. UNDER
FURTHER QUESTIONING, HE SAID THAT NO SPECIAL PERMIT WOULD
BE REQUIRED TO VISIT EAST TIMOR BEYOND THAT NEEDED TO
VISIT ANY OF THE OUTLYING AREAS. HE WAS OPTIMISTIC
THAT REGULAR VISITS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE
ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE POSSIBLE BEFORE THE END OF THIS
YEAR. I URGED THAT ALL POSSIBLE ACTION BE TAKEN TO
PERMIT SUCH VISITS, IF AT ALL FEASIBLE, BEFORE THE
UPCOMING SESSION OF THE UNGA.
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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